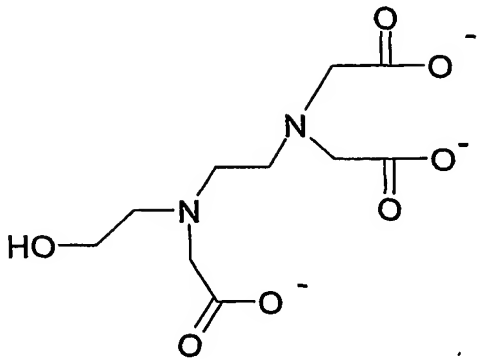
Claims

1. An aqueous solution comprising a sodium salt $xNa^+yH^+$of the chelating compound of formula **I**:



(I)

wherein x = 2.1 – 2.7, y = 0.9 – 0.3, and x + y = 3.

2. The aqueous solution according to claim 1 comprising at least 45wt% of the sodium salt xNa^+yH^+ of the chelating compound of formula **I** wherein x = 2.1 – 2.7, y = 0.9 – 0.3, and x + y = 3.

3. A container comprising at least 0.5kg of an aqueous solution according to claim 1 or 2.

4. Use of an aqueous solution according to claim 1 or 2 for making an iron-chelate complex.

5. A method of preparing an aqueous solution comprising at least 45wt% of the sodium salt xNa^+yH^+ of the chelating compound of formula **I** wherein x = 2.1 – 2.7, y = 0.9 – 0.3, and x + y = 3 from the trisodium salt of N-(2-hydroxyethyl)ethylenediamine-N,N',N'-triacetic acid (Na_3-HEDTA), comprising the step of electrodialysing at 20°C an aqueous solution containing less than 42 wt% of Na_3-HEDTA, or at a different

temperature at maximally the concentration whereby the viscosity is the same or lower than the viscosity of the 42wt% Na_3-HEDTA solution at 20°C, using a bipolar and a cation membrane, thereby converting the Na_3-HEDTA solution to the solution of the sodium salt xNa^+yH^+ of formula I wherein x = 2.1 –2.7, y = 0.9 – 0.3, and x + y = 3.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein a caustic electrolyte is used.